

FOND DU LAC COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. WATER LAB DEPT

DIRECTIONS FOR COLLECTION OF WATER SAMPLES FOR ANALYSIS BY THE FOND DU LAC COUNTY LABORATORY

WATER TESTING FORM: • Complete form accurately

INFORMATION:
(Please read all items)

- Cost- \$18.00 fee for Bacteria test
\$15.00 fee for Nitrate test
- Cash or Check
Check payable to: Fond du Lac Co Treasurer
- Lab Hours:
Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday
8:00am to 4:00pm
- Suggestion:
Collect sample just prior to delivery to lab
- Refrigerate samples after collection-
Do not freeze.
- Test results may not be valid if sample is
received at lab more than 24 hours after
collection

CONTACT:

Fond du Lac County Health Dept.
G. Smedema, R.S.
Laboratory Director
160 South Macy Street
Fond du Lac WI 54935
920.929.3085

PLEASE FOLLOW INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY

Careless collection procedures may cause "Unsafe" results.

Sampling Instructions

1. Locate a sample tap nearest the well – pressure tank taps are good locations.
2. Avoid plastic, swing, leaky or gooseneck faucets. Remove any faucet attachments, filter, aerator, gasket, screen or hose.
3. If possible, sterilize metal taps by heating with a flame, propane torch. Heat until the tap is hot (approx. 20 sec.) Move the flame continuously to prevent damage to tap. **Avoid this step with plastic taps.** Butane lighters and candles do not provide sufficient heat for sterilization.
4. Open the valve and allow the water to run at medium flow for at least 8-10 minutes. **Do not** change the flow rate; **do not** shut off the tap or **do not** wipe the tap. Be sure all traces of previously chlorinated water is not present.
5. With the water flowing – carefully remove the entire sample bottle seal and cap. **Do not** touch the bottle top or inside of cap. A small amount of white powder may be noted in the bottle – **do not** rinse or shake powder from bottle. **Do not** set the cap down.
6. Holding the bottle in one hand and the cap in the other – fill the bottle without touching the inside of the bottle – fill to the top. Insufficient amounts will not yield accurate results.
7. Quickly replace cap and tighten.
8. Complete Water Testing Form information accurately.
9. Promptly deliver sample bottle and completed form to Health Dept. Lab, 3rd Floor, 160 South Macy Street, Fond du Lac WI. Keep sample cool – **do not** freeze. Refrigerate if possible.
10. Lab hours: Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm.

What do test results mean?

This bacteriological test is used to determine the suitability of water for drinking and food preparation uses.

"Safe" means no coliform bacteria are present and is bacteriologically safe. Consider testing the well again in a year or sooner if you notice a sudden change in taste, color or odor.

"Unsafe" means that coliform bacteria are present. Coliform bacteria are microorganisms that are found in surface water and soil. Their presence in a water sample indicates a potential pathway for fecal wastes and other disease causing organisms to enter your well. The presence of *E. coli* in a water sample indicates evidence of human or animal fecal contamination of the well. Both coliform bacteria and *E.coli* indicate the water is potentially dangerous, a health risk and an alternative source of drinking water is recommended.

Submitting a second sample is suggested when receiving "Unsafe" results. If the second sample is also "Unsafe" corrective actions such as checking for sanitary defects and disinfection of the well are recommended.